



# Montgomery County Council

*From the Office of Councilmember Michael Subin*

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**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Lou D'Ovidio 240-777-7962

## **SUBIN TELLS WSSC COMMISSIONERS TO LAY OFF PERSONNEL CHANGES, URGES INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES**

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Councilmember Michael Subin today called for an end to "two weeks of chaos" at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, urging that WSSC's commissioners forego any personnel changes for six months, and that the County's inspector general investigate any charges and accusations.

Two weeks ago, the WSSC commissioners -- meeting behind closed doors and with no public notice -- voted 4-2 to terminate WSSC general manager John Griffin and his deputy Mike Errico. At the same time, the board postponed purchase of a critical chemical to insure WSSC water quality. WSSC's general counsel has since issued an opinion that the dismissals were null and void. Griffin and Errico remain in their positions. Griffin, acting in his emergency capacity, has concluded the contract for a supply of the critical chemical.

"I am concerned that WSSC commissioners are using innuendo and unsubstantiated rumors instead of doing their job -- to deliver affordable, high-quality water to hundreds of thousands of homes in Montgomery and Prince George's County," said Councilmember Subin.

"I urge WSSC's commissioners to back off any and all personnel actions for the next six months -- call it a 'cooling-off' period. During that six months, Montgomery County's inspector general should take up each and every allegation of impropriety, separate what's true from what's character assassination against hard-working public servants, and report back to the Council.

“When we get that report, I want Montgomery County's three WSSC commissioners front and center to respond to the inspector general's conclusions.

“This County Council appoints WSSC commissioners to do the public's business, not to advance personal and political agendas behind closed doors. If we have commissioners who aren't willing to toe that line, then they should ship out -- pronto.”

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